Message Text

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT DOHA 1286 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ABU DHABI DHAHRAN JIDDA KUWAIT LONDON MANAMA MUSCAT TEHRAN DATED 19 NOV 75 QUOTE UNCLAS DOHA 1286

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN QA

SUBJ: GULF INTERNATIONAL BANK

REF: MANAMA 1291

1. INTERVIEW WITH DIRECTOR OF QATAR MONETARY AGENCY (QMA) IN NOV 16 ISSUE OF DOHA DAILY "AL ARAB" PROVIDES FURTHER INFORMATION ON GULF INTERNATIONAL BANK FORMED BY FAHRAIN, KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR, OMAN AND UAE (REFTEL). DIRECTOR STATED THAT HEADQUARTERS OF NEW BANK WILL BE IN BAHRAIN BUT NOTED THAT BRANCHES WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE SIX PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AS WELL AS IN OTHER ARAB AND NON-ARAB STATES. ACCORDING DIRECTOR, BANK WILL BE USED BY PARTICIPATING STATES AS VEHICLE FOR COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND INVESTMENTS ABROAD.

2. RE CAPITALIZATION OF BANK, DIRECTOR WAS QUOTED AS SAYING UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT OUT OF TOTAL CAPITAL OF 40 MILLION BAHRAINI DINARS,

(US \$100 MILLION), BD 24 MILLION WILL BE PAID BY MEMBER STATES. REMAINING BD 16 MILLION WILL BE RAISED BY SALE OF SHARES TO ORGANIZATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS IN PARTICIPATING STATES. ACCORDING DIRECTOR, LIMIT ON TOTAL SHARE PURCHASES BY RESIDENTS OF ANY STATE IS EQUAL TO 49 PERCENT OF THAT STATE'S SUBSCRIPTION TO CAPITAL OF BANK. DIRECTOR SAID SHARES WILL COST 10,000 QATARI RIYALS EACH (US \$1.00 EQUALS QR 3.92).

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